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## MEMOIRS of General William T. Sherman.

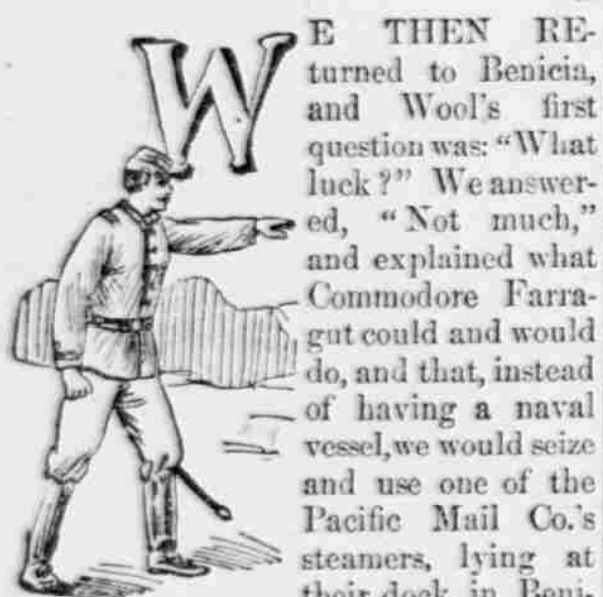
WRITTEN BY HIMSELF

THE BOOM BURSTS IN CALIFORNIA.

THE PANIC OF 1857

SHERMAN RETIRES FROM THE BANKING BUSINESS.

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WE THEN RETURNED to Benicia, and Wool's first question was: "What luck?" We answered, "Not much," and explained what Commodore Farragut could and would do, and that, instead of having a naval vessel, we would use one of the Pacific Mail Co.'s steamers, lying at their dock in Benicia, to carry down to San Francisco the arms and munitions when the time came.

As the time was then near at hand for the arrival of the evening boats, we all walked down to the wharf together, where I told Johnson that he could not be too careful; that I had not heard Gen. Wool make a positive promise of assistance. Upon this, Johnson called Gen. Wool to one side, and we three drew together. Johnson said: "Gen. Wool, Gen. Sherman is very particular, and wants to know exactly what you purpose to do."

Wool answered: "I understand, Governor, that in the first place a writ of *habeas corpus* will be issued commanding the jailers of the Vigilance Committee to produce the body of some one of the prisoners held by them (which, of course, will be refused); that you then issue your proclamation commanding them to disperse, and, failing this, you will call out the militia, and command Gen. Sherman with it to

SUPPRESS THE VIGILANCE COMMITTEE as an unlawful body," to which the Governor responded, "Yes." "Then," said Wool, "on Gen. Sherman's making his requisition, approved by you, I will order the issue of the necessary arms and ammunition." I remember well that I said, emphatically: "That is all I want. Now, Governor, you may go ahead."

We soon parted; Johnson and Douglas

and prevent your armed bodies from patrolling the streets."

They inquired where I was to get arms, and I answered that I had them certain. But personally I went right along with my business at the bank, conscious that at any moment we might have trouble. Another committee of citizens,

A CONCILIATORY BODY, was formed to prevent collision if possible, and the newspapers boiled over with vehement vituperation. This second committee was composed of such men as Crockett, Ritchie, Thornton, Bailey Peyton, Foote, Donohue, Kelly, and others,

a class of the most intelligent and wealthy men of the city, who earnestly and honestly desired to prevent bloodshed. They also came to me, and I told them that our men were enrolling very fast, and that, when I deemed the right moment had come, the Vigilance Committee must disperse, else bloodshed and destruction of property would inevitably follow. They also discovered that the better men of the Vigilance Committee itself were getting tired of the business, and thought that in the execution of Casey and Cora, and the banishment of a dozen or more rowdies, they had done enough, and were then willing to stop. It was suggested that, if our Law-and-Order party would not arm, by a certain day near at hand the committee would disperse, and some of their leaders would submit to an indictment and trial by a jury of citizens, which they knew would acquit them of crime. One day in the bank a man called me to the counter and said: "If you expect to get arms of Gen. Wool, you will be mistaken; for I was at Benicia yesterday, and heard him say he would not give them."

This person was known to me to be a man of truth, and I immediately wrote to Gen. Wool a letter telling him what I had heard, and how my hesitation on his part would compromise me as a man of truth and honor, adding that I did

## HIS VICTORY

BY MISS GANSEWER.

(Dedicated to the High School Cadets who went to the Rebel Ghost Dance at Richmond.)

"Oh where goest thou, my gallant son,  
Oh where goest thou?" quoth he.  
"I on to Richmond e'en must run  
To bend the pliant knee  
In honor of a famous one  
Renowned in history."  
"Why do I see your rising ire?  
Reveal to me, my veteran sire,  
The history  
Of this Jeff D.  
What victory  
Won he?"

The veteran roared: "What victory?  
'Twas more like infancy."  
"In youth his country reared the lad—  
She lusted, and fed, and taught him;  
With uniform she had him clad,  
And many honors brought him.  
In turn, he pledged to her his truth,  
But later broke his solemn oath,  
'Twas thus with perjury  
He died in infancy."

"'Twas thus he bore the traitor's part  
And cruel stabbed her to the heart.  
He robbed her of her youth,  
This bitter fruit was his."  
"In war, his prisoners—gallant men—  
He starved, like rats, within his pen.  
His boasted chivalry  
Might call this victory."

"When I was young  
We said and sung  
We'd hang him on a tree—  
A sour apple tree,  
Such bitter fruit was he."

"We sought him East  
Where'er we went, he'd flee,  
We saw a flirt of woman's skirt,  
But dreamed not she was he.  
His haughty head, we sought upon it  
A helmet, but he wore a bonnet.  
We saw him fleetly flee,  
But knew not he was she.  
'Twas thus that chivalry  
Escaped to liberty—  
This was his victory."



THE LAST DITCH.

Colored Soldier—Press my stars, if dere ain't Massa Jeff Davis in de las' ditch at last.  
Jeff—Villain! what do you mean by pursuing defenseless women and children in this barbarous manner.  
Soldier—Under which head do you reckon yourself, old fellow; do you count as a woman or a child?  
Sergeant—You must surrender; resistance is useless.  
Jeff—'I'll never surrender. I've now got Grant and the rest just where I want 'em. The contest has at last, thank Heaven, reached that phase which is peculiarly adapted to the genius and the resources of the Confederacy.  
All the soldiers—(It's not bad, that's so.)  
[At this stage of the proceedings, on being authoritatively informed by the commanding officer that they would take him—alive or dead—the arch-traitor meekly surrendered, "repudiating" his previous bravado as readily as in former times he repudiated his debts.]—War Times Harper's Weekly.

Gov. Johnson, who would doubtless give me a copy; but I insisted that I had made a written communication, and was entitled to a written answer.

At that moment several gentlemen of the "Conciliation party," who had come up in the same steamer with me, asked for admission and came in. I recall the



JOHN W. GEARY, FIRST MAYOR OF SAN FRANCISCO.

names of Crockett, Foote, Bailey Peyton, Judge Thornton, Donohue, etc., and the conversation became general, Wool trying to explain away the effect of our misunderstanding, taking good pains not to deny his promise made to me personally on the wharf. I renewed my application for the letter addressed to me, then lying on his table. On my statement of the case, Bailey Peyton said:

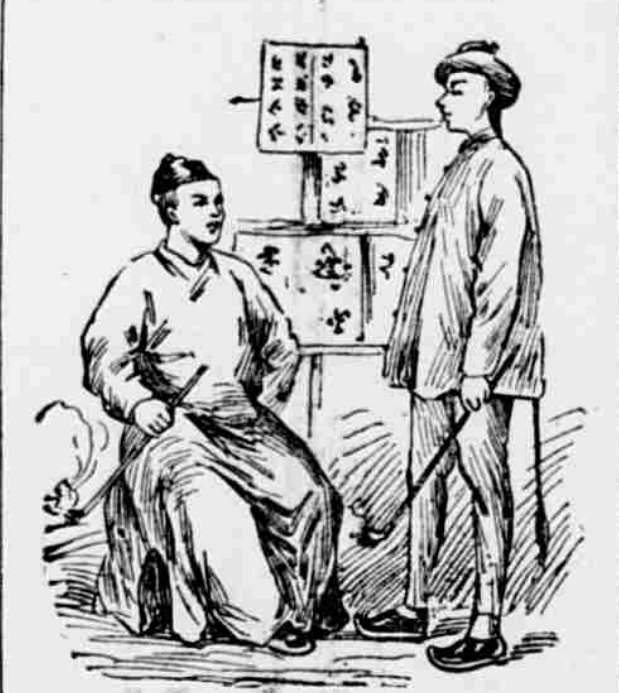
"Gen. Wool, I think Gen. Sherman has a right to a written answer from you, for he is surely compromised." Upon this Wool handed me the letter. I opened and read it, and it denied any promise of arms, but otherwise was extremely evasive and non-committal. I had heard of the arrival at the wharf of the Governor and party, and was expecting them at Wool's room, but, instead of stopping at the hotel where we were, they passed to another hotel on the block above. I went up and found there, in a room on the second floor over the bar-room, Gov. Johnson, Chief Justice Terry, Jones of Palmer, Cooke & Co., E. D. Baker, Volney E. Howard, and one or two others. All were

TALKING FURIOUSLY AGAINST WOOL, denouncing him as a d—d liar, and not sparing the severest terms. I showed the Governor Gen. Wool's letter to me, which he said was in effect the same as the one addressed to and received by him at Sacramento. He was so offended that he would not even call on Gen. Wool, and said he would never again recognize him as an officer or gentleman. We discussed matters generally, and Judge Terry said that the Vigilance Committee were a set of d—d pork-merchants; that they were getting scared, and that Gen. Wool was in collusion with them to bring the State into contempt, etc. I explained that there were no arms in the State except what Gen. Wool had, or what were in the hands of the Vigilance Committee of San Francisco, and that the part of wisdom for us was to be patient and cautious. About that time Crockett and his associates sent up their cards, but Terry and the more violent of the

Governor's followers denounced them as no better than "Vigilantes," and wanted the Governor to refuse even to receive them. I explained that they were not "Vigilantes," that Judge Thornton was a "Law-and-Order" man, was one of the first to respond to the call of the sheriff, and that he went actually to the jail with his one arm the night we expected the first attempt at rescue, etc. Johnson then sent word for them to reduce their business to writing. They simply sent in a written request for an audience, and they were then promptly admitted. After some general conversation, the Governor said he was prepared to hear them, when Mr. Crockett rose and made a prepared speech embracing a clear and fair statement of the condition of things in San Francisco, concluding with the assertion of the willingness of the committee to disband and submit to trial after a certain date not very remote. All the time Crockett was speaking, Terry sat with his hat on, drawn over his eyes, and with his feet on a table. As soon as Crockett was through, they were dismissed and Johnson began to prepare a written answer. This was scratched, altered, and amended, to suit the notions of his counselors, and at last was copied and sent. This answer amounted to little or nothing. Seeing that we were powerless for good, and that violent counsels would prevail under the influence of Terry and others, I sat down at the table,

AND WROTE MY RESIGNATION, which Johnson accepted in a complimentary note on the spot, and at the same time he appointed to my place Gen. Volney E. Howard, then present, a lawyer who had once been a member of Congress from Texas, and who was expected to drive the d—d pork-merchants into the bay at short notice.

I went soon after to Gen. Wool's room, where I found Crockett and the rest of his party; told them that I was out of the fight, having resigned my commission; that I had neglected business that had been entrusted to me by my St. Louis partners; and that I would therefore forward my own business, and leave public affairs severely alone.



CHINESE MERCHANTS.

We all returned to San Francisco that night by the Stockton boat, and I never afterward had anything to do with politics in California, perfectly satisfied with that short experience. Johnson and Wool fought out their quarrel of veracity in the newspapers and on

paper. But, in my opinion, there is not a shadow of doubt that

GEN. WOOL DID DELIBERATELY DECEIVE US; that he had authority to issue arms, and that, had he adhered to his promise, we could have checked the committee before it became a fixed institution and a part of the common law of California. Maj.-Gen. Volney E. Howard came to San Francisco soon after; continued the organization of militia which I had begun; succeeded in getting a few arms



CHARLES J. BRENHAM, SECOND AND FOURTH MAYOR OF SAN FRANCISCO.

from the country; but one day the Vigilance Committee sallied from their armories, captured the arms of the "Law-and-Order party," put some of their men into prison, while Gen. Howard, with others, escaped to the country; after which the Vigilance Committee had it all their own way. Subsequently, in July, 1856, they arrested Chief Justice Terry, and tried him for stabbing one of their constables, but he managed to escape at night, and took refuge on the John Adams. In August, they hanged Hetherington and Brace in broad daylight, without any jury-trial, and soon after, they quietly disbanded. As they controlled the press, they wrote their own history, and the world generally gives them the credit of having purged San Francisco of rowdies and roughs; but their success has given great stimulus to a dangerous principle, that would at any time justify the mob in seizing all the power of Government; and who is to say that the Vigilance Committee may not be composed of the worst, instead of the best, elements of a community? Indeed, in San Francisco, as soon as it was demonstrated that the real power had passed from the City Hall to the committee-room, the same set of bailiffs, constables, and rowdies that had infested the City Hall were found in the employment of the "Vigilantes"; and, after three months' experience, the better class of people became tired of the midnight sessions and left the business and power of the committee in the hands of a court of which a Sidney man was reported to be the head or Chief Justice.

During the Winter of 1855-56, and indeed throughout the year 1856, all kinds of BUSINESS BECAME UNSETTLED in California. The mines continued to yield about fifty millions of gold a year; (Continued on second page.)

## A GALLANT RECORD.

Michigan's 5th Cav. in the Latter Period of the War.

THIRD AS TO LOSSES.

Rough Road for Green Troops to Travel.

VISIT FROM MOSBY.

Plenty of Work for Brave Men to Do.

BY J. K. LOWDEN, NORTHBVILLE, MICH.



NO ONE BETTER than myself knows my inability to fully bring out a fitting history of Michigan's 5th Cav. from Littleton, Md., June 30, 1863, to the final surrender of Lee at Appomattox, April 9, 1865. It would employ and make busy the brain of a Chandler or Everts, and the oratorical powers of a Daniel Webster or a Thaddeus Stevens could be none too fine or forcible to portray their deeds of valor. For several years it has been a study on my part to collect a history of interest to my comrades, and at the same time a reliable source of information.

The 5th Mich. Cav. is classed third in the list of losses in killed and died of wounds in the cavalry service, of which there were 260 regiments. Of the officers, Lieut. Harmon, Maj. Ferry, Lieut. Liggett, Capt. Axtell, Capt. Oliphant, Lieut. Granger, and Capt. North were killed. Lieut. Pettie was killed by his horse in Detroit, Nov. 10, 1862; Lieut. Foote died, Feb. 9, 1863, at Poolesville, Md.; Capt. Stephenson was killed in Detroit by the horse he had ridden through the entire service, the day after he was mustered out.

I offer the following story for my comrades' criticism, respectfully dedicated to our efficient commander, Russell A. Alger.

## UNDER THE CALL.

of President Lincoln, July 2, 1862, the excitement in the Peninsular State to fill its quota for troops was intense. Early in August Col. Joseph T. Copeland obtained authority from the War Department to raise a regiment for the cavalry service. The State had already three in the field, and another, the 4th, ready to leave, and on the 14th day of August, 1862, the Colonel very quietly went about the work of enlistment. From all parts of the lower peninsula the response came, full, hearty, and quick.

On the 27th of the same month, the troops were nearly all in Detroit, ready for muster. Some, in fact, had been full companies as soon as the 20th. The muster into service began on the 27th, by Col. Joseph R. Smith, when were mustered Co's A, B, C, and D. The muster was finished on Aug. 30; 1,240 officers and men there were in all, with Col. Joseph T. Copeland; Lieut.-Col. William D. Mann; Maj. Freeman Norvell; Ebenezer Gould, Luther S. Trowbridge; Surg. John P. Wilson; Asst. Surg. Addison R. Stone; Adj. Richard Baylis; Q. M. Arthur Edwards; Commissary, Dwight Aiken; Chap. Oliver Taylor.

A—Capt. Wellington W. Gray; First Lieut. William M. Underhill; Second



GEN. WADSWORTH.

Lieut. Samuel Harris; Sup. Second Lieut. Egbert B. Clark.

B—Capt. Allyn C. Litchfield; First Lieut. David Oliphant; Second Lieut. Myron Hickey; Sup. Second Lieut. Robert A. Haile.

C—Capt. George W. Hunt; First Lieut. Horace W. Dodge; Second Lieut. Jacob Bristol; Sup. Second Lieut. Edward G. Granger.

D—Capt. Eli K. Simonds; First Lieut. Geo. S. Wheeler; Second Lieut. Thos. J. Dean; Sup. Second Lieut. Henry Hitchcock.

E—Capt. Crawley P. Dake; First Lieut. Edward M. Lee; Second Lieut. William H. Rolls; Sup. Second Lieut. George R. Barse.

F—Capt. Noah H. Ferry; First Lieut. Abram C. Vanderburg; Second Lieut. Wm. Kieth; Sup. Second Lieut. Elmer C. Dicey.

G—Capt. Wm. I. Maggoffin; First Lieut. Stephen B. Mann; Second Lieut.

Geo. W. Townsend; Sup. Second Lieut. John Gunderman.

H—Capt. Stephen P. Purdy; First Lieut. Henry Starkey; Second Lieut. Edgar W. Flint; Sup. Second Lieut. Henry K. Foote.

I—Capt. Wm. B. Williams; First Lieut. Geo. N. Dutcher; Second Lieut.



GEN. R. A. ALGER.

Chas. H. Safford; Sup. Second Lieut. Henry H. Finley.

K—Capt. John E. Clark; First Lieut. Henry H. Pettie; Second Lieut. Hobart Miller; Sup. Second Lieut. Wm. O. North.

L—Capt. Robert F. Judson; First Lieut. Benj. F. Axtell; Second Lieut. David G. Kenhall; Sup. Second Lieut. Robert C. Wallace.

M—Capt. Frederick A. Copeland; First Lieut. Smith H. Hastings; Second Lieut. Andrew D. Hall; Sup. Second Lieut. George Fairbrother.

The regiment was delayed in the State for equipment until Dec. 4, when we were ordered to Washington and encamped on East Capitol Hill. After delay came several wagons loaded with the afterward famed Spencer rifle. We were the first and only regiment to use them until July of the following year. We stayed on Capitol Hill, employed every day in fatigue duty and drill, until Feb. 26, 1863.

An expedition started from Washington on Feb. 26, 1863, that lasted six days, covering nearly 200 miles' travel, that made a veteran regiment of 900 as green troops as were ever in the volunteer service. When we started we were encumbered by

ALL SORTS OF EQUIPMENT that we had no use for after we got experience. The 6th Mich. Cav. joined us at the Long Bridge.

We proceeded across the Potomac and invaded the sacred soil of the Old Dominion, down by Four Mile Run, where the 1st Mich. Cav. were encamped. They gazed us unmercifully about being a pack train. On to Alexandria we went, out through Fort Lyon. We made a detour and came back and took the pike leading to Fairfax Courthouse, through a hard storm of rain and snow, plodding all day until nearly dark, when we reached Centerville, which offered terms of capitulation and rest in the mud.

We lay down, mostly in tree-tops. As soon as it was light we were reinforced or reinforced someone else, I can't tell which—the latter probably. A man in all the glitter of spread-eagle tinsel made the announcement that he was the engineer and we the machine. Taking 18 pounds of grain to each now overloaded horse, we were set in motion for the conquest of new worlds.

Bull Run crossed our path, but we carried the field; then Groveton, Gainesville, Buckland Mills and New Baltimore came by us, but we stood firm. Our great master mind conveyed the intelligence to us that the city of Warrenton was approaching, and to meet it with becoming gallantry, while he took the post of honor. The town was full of men in gray uniforms. We supposed they were the enemy, and have never had reason to change our minds; but let the city and its soldiers pass by and around, as all the other places had, without molesting them.

We here changed our course from west to south, passed by some fine tracts of timber and well-sodded fields of grass, but as a field of corn-stubble near Warrenton Junction was passing by, the order came to invest and hold it for the night. The mud was of the consistency of mortar ready for the mason's trowel, and six inches deep.

Very soon a flock of Confederate sheep made an assault upon us, but was repulsed with a loss of 60 killed, with no casualties to us. Here came into play the use of

LOTS OF BLANKETS. If you lost one in the soft mud you had another; but more blankets more mud, more mud more weight for your horse to carry. The more pounds of weight your horse carried, the more liable you were to go afloot and carry your saddle in addition to your other equipments, and we were learning this with a vengeance.

After a very uncomfortable night we forded Kettle Run, which washed the mud thoroughly from our horses and a great deal from our clothing and blankets. We turned directly south toward Fredericksburg and Falmouth. We soon came upon the trail of a body of the enemy's horse and halted instantly. The road was carefully examined, and the master mind of our great moving cause thought the most feasible plan

taking the boat to Sacramento, and I to San Francisco.

The Chief Justice, Terry, came to San Francisco the next day, issued a writ of *habeas corpus* for the body of one Maloney, which writ was resisted, as we expected. The Governor then issued his proclamation and I published my orders, dated June 4, 1855. The Quartermaster-General of the State, Gen. Kibbe, also came to San Francisco, took an office in the City Hall, engaged several rooms for armories, and soon the men began to enroll into companies. In my General Orders calling out the militia I used the expression: "When a sufficient number of men are enrolled, arms and ammunition will be supplied."

Some of the best men of the "Vigilantes" came to me and remonstrated, saying that collision would surely result; that it would be terrible, etc. All I could say in reply was, that it was for them to get out of the way. "Remove your fort, cease your midnight councils,

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